

Internet Safety

Learning For Life



Cyber-Bullying

Cyber bullying or online bullying is something all parents should talk to their children about.

Cyberbullying is bullying that takes place over digital devices like smartphones, computers, and tablets. Cyberbullying can occur through Text, and apps, or online in social media, forums, or gaming where people can view, participate in, or share content.

Cyberbullying includes sending, posting, or sharing negative, harmful, false, or mean content about someone else. It can include sharing personal or private information about someone else causing embarrassment or humiliation.

Cyberbullying can happen to anyone.

The most common places where cyberbullying happens are:

- Social media sites or apps like Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat
- Text messages and instant messages
- Email

If your child is being bullied online, help them first by listening. Then help them to keep any messages sent as a record, block the sender of the messages, and report the problem to the service provider - sites like Facebook have user friendly reporting tools.

SCREEN TIME

There is no magic number here, but you should be conscious of how long your child spends on their devices

DIGITAL AGE OF CONSENT

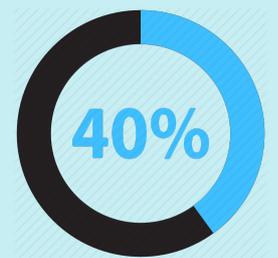
The Digital Age of Consent in Ireland is 16, meaning that companies cannot collect, process or store data from any user under 16

DIGITAL FOOTPRINTS

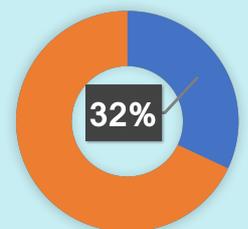
Every time we use the internet we leave behind a trail of information - check security settings on your child's devices to ensure they are as safe as possible



of students say they use the internet for several hours a day at home



of 11-12 years olds and more than **80%** of 13-14 year olds have at least one social networking profile, despite age restrictions



of students have had contact online with someone they have never met face to face

APPS PARENTS SHOULD BE AWARE OF

There are hundreds of thousands of wonderful apps out there which can be used to great benefit for fun and learning. There will always be some however that can pose dangers, some of which are described here.



KIK

Allows anonymous communication between users



SNAPCHAT

Photos sent self-destruct after a few seconds, and messages sent disappear also



YIKYAK

Allows users to anonymously send sexually explicit and abusive language to others



WHISPER

Encourages users to share secrets with strangers which can encourage bullying



ASK.FM

Encourages anonymous Q&A



AUDIO MANAGER

Deceptive app - disguises itself as Audio Manager but hides other apps, messages and media behind a locked screen



CALCULATOR APPS

Many apps are designed to look like regular calculators but secretly store messages, images and videos which can only be accessed with a code



HOUSE PARTY

Live video and texts, has been known to have a lot of inappropriate content

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

While the internet is a wonderful resource and such a valuable asset in today's technological world, it is also home to much inappropriate and harmful content which we all want to protect our children from.

Inappropriate content can include material relating to sex, violence, discrimination, graphic crime reporting, drug addiction and cult worship. While none of this is explicitly prohibited by law, this kind of material can result in distress or harm when seen by children - or indeed if they are asked to share any of this material themselves.

Talk to your child about what to do if they come across violent content, online pornography, hate promotion or unreliable information, or what to do if they are asked to share inappropriate images of themselves online.

